

The BEACON



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McClintock mansion sold *Others off market*

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Editor-in-Chief

On Monday, September 21, Wilkes University officially handed the keys of McClintock Hall over to the building's new owner. The closing of the historic mansion was originally scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, but was moved to Monday to accommodate a scheduling conflict.

According to Thomas Messinger, executive director of facilities, McClintock Hall was placed on the market in March 2009.

"In the 2005 master plan, there were areas that were designated outside of our area of interest... There were things designated to return to the community, such as McClintock Hall," said Messinger. He also noted that the acquirement and renovations of University Towers has made many older residence halls obsolete.

Barre Hall and the Lakeside Apartments, located on South River Street, were also added to the real estate market when McClintock was listed. Interest was shown in Doane Hall, but it was never officially listed. These buildings are all empty residence halls.

According to *The Wilkes University Historical Atlas*, McClintock Hall was acquired by the university in 1950. The building, which was used as a residence hall for over half a century, was donated to the university by Gilbert McClintock, a former chair of Wilkes's Board of Trustees. It is one of the oldest buildings the university owned,

See **McCLINTOCK** page 5

Library construction slated to begin in October

BY DANIEL KAUTZ
Managing Editor

Beginning in the middle of October, Wilkes University will begin construction on a large-scale renovation project in the lower level of the Farley Library. The construction is slated for completion sometime during spring semester and will help improve both the ascetics and functionality of the downstairs, said the Dean of the Library, John Stachacz.

"We're going to create a 'Learning Commons'," said Stachacz. "It will be a completely refurbished lower level. It's going to make a much nicer learning space for students and hopefully bring some of the noise from the first floor down here so it's better distributed."

The current plans include moving the Writing Center from Breiseth Hall to the lower level of the library. Four large group study rooms are to be built; these will be closed areas with projection screens and computer terminals where students work-

See **LIBRARY** page 2



The Beacon/ Tom Reilly

The renovations to the lower level of the Farley Library will create new group study areas that students can better utilize for their collaborative projects.

Law School vision approved by trustees *Advisory committee finalizing business plan, location options*

BY JACQUELINE LUKAS
News Editor

The Board of Trustees approved, in principle, the vision of the Wilkes University Law School on June 9, with the stipulation that the business plan later would be confirmed.

The business plan--consisting of the cost of attendance, estimation of related expenses, enrollment for the first semester and the construction or renovation of building site--

has yet to be finalized.

The cost of operation for the law school has two major components: the operational costs that are associated with hiring and paying the faculty and staff, and the capital costs or the cost of the a building or buildings that will house the school.

"The way law schools use space is pretty specialized, so not every office building would be suitable for a law school project. It has to be educationally oriented to certain kinds of classrooms and space for the law

library... So we're in the middle of that part of the project, right now," said Dean Loren Prescott, dean of the Law School Initiative.

The options for the building are still unknown because the advisory board for the Law School is still deciding whether they are going to construct a new building or renovate an existing building close to campus and the downtown, explained Prescott. It is important that the law school be situ-

See **LAW SCHOOL** page 4

ON THE WEB

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INDEX

News.....1-5
Opinion.....6-8

Lifestyles.....9-11
A&E.....12-15
Sports.....16-20

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LIBRARY from FRONT PAGE

ing on projects can meet to limit distractions. There will also be smaller, semi-private study areas introduced to the level lower that will be surrounded by five-foot walls that will help create a sense of separation from others downstairs. Stachacz said these study areas will feature not only computers but “restaurant-style booths” for student comfort. The downstairs bathrooms will also be completely renovated in accordance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Brand new lights and carpeting will be installed, along with a new ceiling.

The official planning for this project began last year, according to Thomas Messinger, the executive director of facilities.

“It has been a goal of ours to add additional [private areas] in the lower level to facilitate group study,” said Messinger. “We feel that by adding additional computer stations and places for students to meet that we’re moving towards that goal.”

Stachacz said the construction will not have a large impact on students who attend classes in the lower level of the library.

“We will have to re-route student traffic across the main floor of the library and down the back stairwell because [part of the lower level] will be closed off. It

won’t disrupt any classes being held down there, however.”

The construction costs for the project are being funded by the Wilkes Capital Program; Messinger stated that the projected total is roughly \$400,000. The technology being installed (the computers, projectors, etc.) are being funded by a \$25,000 donation from Student Government, as well as a \$75,000 grant that the school received from the Alden Trust. All told, the renovations will cost roughly half a million dollars.

The construction on the lower level is just part of the first phase of a plan that projects the entire library will be renovated over the next several years.

“We decided on taking a floor-

by-floor approach in order to provide the least possible disruption to students and operations,” Messinger said. “Phase II looks toward renovating the first floor, probably over the summer.”

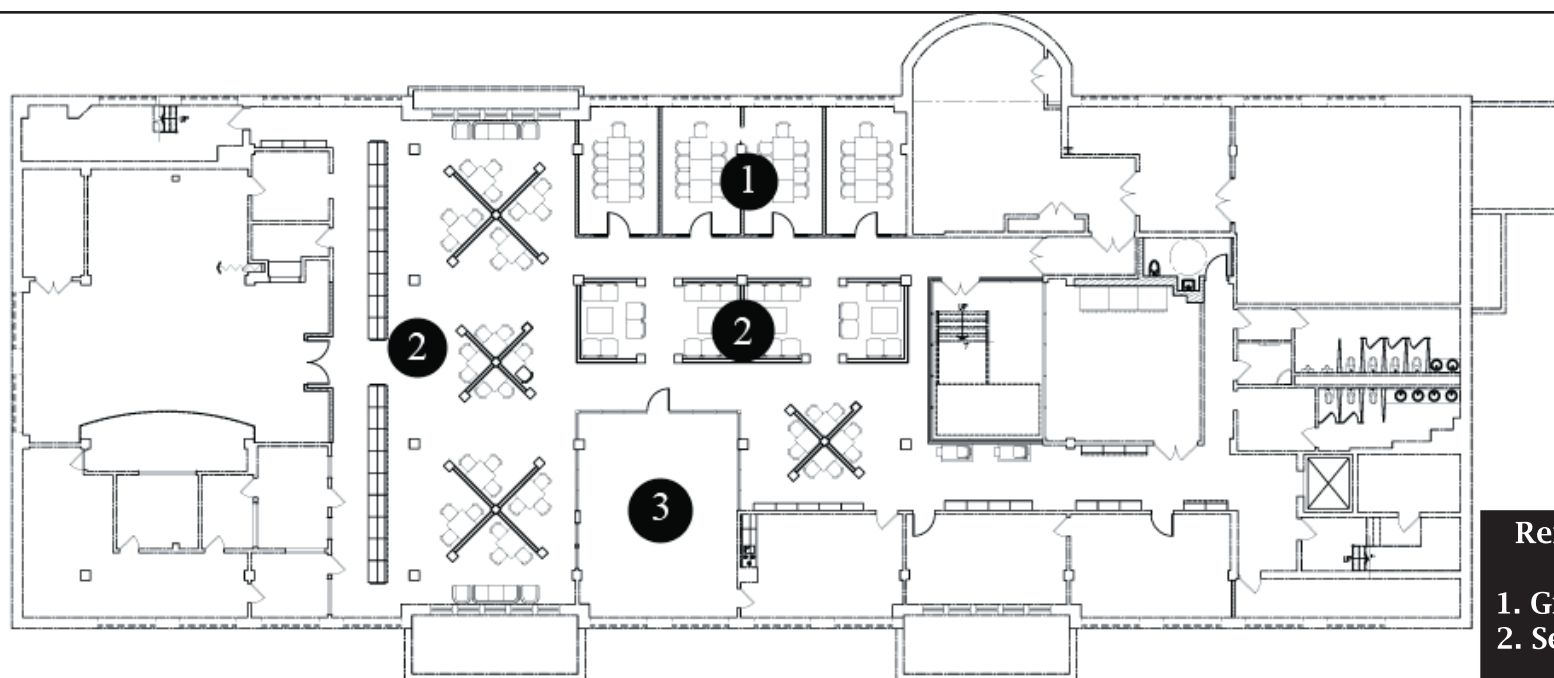
“We’re looking at refurbishing this entire facility, not just the lower level,” said Stachacz. “We will replace all the carpeting over the next couple of years; the light fixtures, the ceilings [. . .] We will make this a brighter, friendlier place to study and work with groups. We are also looking to change the entire front entrance way and adding an ADA approved ramp so that students with disabilities can enter through the front door rather than the side of the building.”

“I think the library needs substantial change and I think this is a step in the right direction,” said Trevor Hirsh, a junior entrepreneurship major. “I feel the basement needs to have some technology added down there and that work study areas definitely needed addressing.”

Brittney Hodnik, a junior criminology major, agreed.

“I like [that they’re renovating the lower level]. I’m never downstairs because there are no printers and it’s just outdated for my purposes. I’m interested to see what they’re able to accomplish.”

(Below) A blueprint of what the basement of the library will look like after the renovations.



Renovation Legend

1. Group Study rooms
2. Semi-private study areas
3. Writing Center

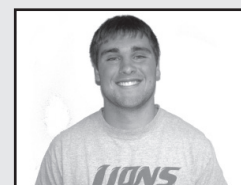
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Meet the Staff



Anthony Dorunda
SPORTS EDITOR

Financial Aid searches for fourth director in two years

Editor's Note: This story ran last week in the online edition of *The Beacon*.

BY NICOLE FRAIL
Editor-in-Chief

Last Friday, September 18, marked Pamela Hoffman's last day as Wilkes University's financial aid director.

Hoffman was the third person in approximately two years to leave the position. Leo J. Danylak began his work as financial aid specialist in November 2006, but left the university in August 2007 when unspecified allegations were presented to Wilkes's administration. Approximately one year later, in July 2008, Donna Cerza vacated the same position. In late September 2008, Hoffman took over as director.

"The university decided that they wanted a financial aid director that was based on campus," said Hoffman, who worked from her home in Lancaster four days a week.

"We really felt that we would better serve our campus, our students and staff and faculty, by having someone who is physically present on campus... At no point in time was Pam asked to leave; we discussed her taking the job under the new terms of the position, but it was just not something she was interested in doing," said Melanie Mickelson, vice president of enrollment services.

Added Mickelson, "This decision came

from the university changing the structure of the job, not from any poor performance on Pam's part."

The university is running a local search for a new, traditional financial aid director who will work directly on campus. If the search does not result in an experienced candidate, the position will be advertised nationally, said Mickelson.

"The turnover in this position in recent years is a matter of concern to all of us," said Dr. Tim Gilmour, president of Wilkes. "While the search for Pam Hoffman's replacement will be completed as quickly as possible, [Mickelson] and Janine Becker, the executive director of the Student Services Center, will be reviewing the current financial aid organization with an eye to strengthening it and reducing the turnover rate."

In hopes of making the position more appealing and less tedious, the director will head a team of Wilkes employees who will be specifically trained to work with financial aid, said Mickelson.

"We are utilizing our internal system much more fully, allowing improved documentation on student records, for example. This provides better service and makes working on an account somewhat quicker," said Becker.

The processing schedule has also been altered so employees in the department can begin processing information about FAFSA



Courtesy of The Beacon Archives

Pam Hoffman is the third director to leave in two years. She began in September of 2008 and left on September 18, 2009. The search has begun for a new director.

and loans earlier in the year.

Students are also encouraged to view their accounts online "to reduce traffic, making staff more efficient overall," added Becker.

"I would like the next person in this role to settle into this role for the long term," said Mickelson. "I want so badly to have the right person in this role."

Until the position is officially filled, Ron

Laszewski from a consulting firm called Financial Aid Services will serve as de facto director. Hoffman is uncertain whether she will seek employment in financial aid.

"The staff at Student Services is an incredible group of people... I feel like I am a better person having worked with them," said Hoffman.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NOTES 09-16-09

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN
A&E Editor

Treasurer's Report

All College: \$24,000
Conference: \$10,900
General: \$8,900
Leadership: \$3,000
Spirit: \$1,000
Start-Up: \$15,000
Special Projects: \$2,750
Totals: \$52,050

Club Reports:

Programming Board: They need help with Demetri Martin set up from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Students volunteering to help with load in, set up, take down, and box office on Friday, Sept. 25, can see the show for free.

New Business:

Outdoor Adventure Coordinator Introduction – Gabe Lamberti, the new Outdoor Coordinator, is trying to increase number of students attending the recreational center.

He also hopes to increase outdoor trips, and to further develop leadership opportunities.

Justin Kraynack and Mike Molnar, Food Service Reps - Food Services

UPDATES ON RIFKIN: has a new menu with popular foods but it is still limited due to lack of hoods and grills. There is also increased snack lines and no more espresso due to the fact that the espresso machine broke; it was very expensive to replace and it wasn't very popular. There are still hot beverages in Einstein.

UPDATES ON CAFETERIA: Opened new station, "Red Hot Chef." Cafeteria is also promoting "The Balanced Way", which has been a useful nutritional guideline for students using volumetrics. Food services are also increasing their food selections. The new conveyor belt is very successful; it is cleaner, and has less jams. Also, considering putting hand sanitizers near the conveyor belt for students and faculty. A new grill was purchased for veggie burgers only.

Homecoming Budget: A motion was passed 23-0-0 to grant the Homecoming

\$18,400 for entertainment, food and drink, party favors, security, flowers, sashes and cars.

Old Business Updates:

SG Locks: Card swipe was ordered and cost \$2,100

Open House Student Panel

Events

Homecoming 10/2: The theme is "The Return of the Colonel." Tickets go on sale for \$9 on Tuesday the 22nd to Tuesday the 29th from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Pep-rally tentatively to be at Riverside Park which gives community a chance to get involved.

Committees

SLAM - Green Printing successful. Certain majors, such as Nursing, claim that they use a lot of paper for slide notes—more discussion to follow for allowing certain majors

more allowance for printing

OCC hopes to do "Wing Wars" in the near future.



*At 8:00 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the SG meeting. The motion was approved. **SG Meetings are open to all students. They are held every Wednesday in the Miller Conference Room on the second floor of HSC.**

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

ICLWB: Crafting Wilkes-Barre's Future Leaders

BY RACHEL LEGGIERI

Correspondent

While getting an education, the one thing on college students' minds is usually how they can apply the skills they're learning into the real world.

Intercollegiate Leadership Wilkes-Barre (ICLWB), a program sponsored by area businesses, teaches college students the skills needed to become leaders not only in the workplace, but in every aspect of their lives.

"We teach students how to market themselves as leaders," Kim Koehl, program director, explained. "It's about using leadership skills in different aspects of your life; whether it's family or college, we teach them how to handle all situations as a leader."

The Intercollegiate chapter of Leadership Wilkes-Barre is one out of the five chapters offered by Leadership Wilkes-Barre. Leadership Wilkes-Barre offers a junior LWB program for high school students, intercollegiate LWB for college students, Leadership core program, executive LWB program and a masters LWB program. College students can apply or may be recommended by their academic advisors and chosen by a designated advisory council comprised of staff from each school.

Wilkes University is one of six schools involved locally in ICLWB. Keystone College, King's College, Luzerne County Community College, Misericordia University and Penn-State Wilkes-Barre also participate in the program.

This year's Wilkes representatives are sophomore nursing major Adrienne Dorcent, pre-pharmacy major Erin Hanley, junior communication studies major Jacqueline Lukas, sophomore business major, Cortny Sasserson, and junior communication studies major Melanie Thomas.

"It feels nice to be part of such a selective program because I know that all the people who are involved deserve it and want to be there," said Sasserson. "We are all on this year-long journey to network, hone our leadership skills and have a good time along the way."

Rae Ellen Zekas, ICLWB advisor and graduate assistant in the Student Development office, explained that the students are carefully picked and are required to have certain leadership skills already intact.

"At Wilkes, we look for students who show leadership through their activities on campus and in the community," Zekas said.

"We also want dedicated students who will commit themselves to the program and its time requirements."

Once chosen for the program, students are required to attend meetings once a month at the various colleges involved, which focus a full day on learning from ICLWB. The program lasts six months, and is fit to adhere to the busy schedule of a college student.

"One of the best things about this program is the opportunity for members to meet other students from different schools," said Lori Nocito, Executive Director of Leadership Wilkes-Barre.

"Normally with other programs you only meet people from your own campus, so the students really love that broad range of communication."

"It's a very unique program in that perspective," Koehl added. "[The students] get to interact with the students from other campuses and understand the philosophy of the different schools and also the commonalities."

ICLWB also gives students an opportunity to really get their name out there and get involved in the community.

"Students leave the program with an en-

hanced awareness of their leadership potential and style," said Zekas. "It's a great way for students to network with their peers and local professionals, while finding out what this area has to offer."

Nocito explained that although ICLWB provides the skills, it's up to the students to "take the jump into the community."

"It's like when you're going swimming... you know how to swim and you're at the end of the diving board," Nocito explained. "We take our members to that diving board and give them the knowledge they need, but we leave it up to them to jump in and swim."

Koehl also said that the students' reactions to the program are always positive.

"You always come out learning vital things about yourself, as well as the community," agreed Nocito. "That's what I feel makes it so successful."

Anyone interested in ICLWB should visit www.leadershipwilkes-barre.org.

LAW SCHOOL

from FRONT PAGE

ated nearby the court system as well as local lawyers' offices because those are the things that the law students will want to be close to, Prescott added.

Michael Richwalder, senior business administration major said that in his search for law schools, he has seen buildings and libraries dedicated just for the law school and hopes that Wilkes University can do that.

Prescott said the situation is complicated because there is still so much work to be done. In addition to finalizing the business plan and settling on a suitable location for the school, the application to the Pennsylvania Department of Education still needs to be sent, and the state of the economy is affecting fundraising efforts.

"The people who are in a position to make major gifts are just less inclined to and, sometimes, less able to in an economic downturn," said Prescott.

The economy is not only affecting fundraising efforts, but also the number of prospective law students.

"There have been reports in the major papers in the big cities about younger lawyers being laid off and law firms not hiring as much as they have been hiring in the past. I believe that is going to turn around with the change in the economy, but we don't know how long that's going to take," explained Prescott.

Dr. Kyle Kreider, assistant professor of political science and pre-law adviser, also said that he has been getting either one email or phone call per week from a student or member of the community interested in the law school.

"This is also very positive development for the region, for all of Northeast Pennsylvania, [and is] certainly positive for Luzerne County and for Wilkes-Barre. The introduction of a professional school program like this into a community can have some really significant, positive impact," said Prescott.

Kreider will be organizing a mock class in the middle of the semester.

"[Students] will get a feel or a taste for what law school is like. So they might like it, they might not, but it might help them make a decision as to whether or not they want to go to law school," said Kreider.

Currently, there is no timeline for the construction or renovation of the building because funding and the decision on the building need to be confirmed. Prescott is hoping that the law school will be open in fall 2011.

Susan E. Schwab, advisory board chair, was unavailable for comment.

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McCLINTOCK from FRONT PAGE

dating back to the 1840s.

Approximately one month after McClintock, Barre and Lakeside Apartments were put on the market through Lewith & Freeman Real Estate, interest was shown in McClintock. At one point, there were multiple offers for McClintock, but conditions of the sale deterred all but one buyer.

Approximately five months passed before both Wilkes and the buyer were ready to close on the property.

"The buyer had conditions in his agreement that had to be met before the sale could actually go through. It took several months for those things to actually happen and the closing could occur," said Messinger. "In this particular case, there were zoning issues that had to be resolved." PennDOT also had to issue approval for the sale.

McClintock was listed for \$250,000, but sold for less. Messinger would not disclose the sale price to *The Beacon*.

Petra Carver, vice president of finance and support operations, said "the proceeds from the sale will be set aside until the master plan is completed. Once the plan is done, we will determine how to best utilize

the funds for campus development purposes according to the master plan.

Before the Master Planning Committee meets to discuss the upcoming plan, they must choose a firm to assist them in the process. Throughout the month of October, three firms will visit Wilkes's campus and hold open forums in which they will discuss their ideas for the upcoming plans. Those firms are Sasaki, EwingCole, and Venturi, Scott Brown & Associates.

Once a firm is chosen, the Master Planning Committee will begin their discussions.

Sophomore English and communications double major David Cook was chosen to sit on the committee as a student representative.

"I would like to see the university use the historical buildings so long as there is a need for them, or a predicted need in the near future, assuming of course, there is room in the budget..." said Cook.

In August, Barre and Lakeside were taken off the market.

"The properties [were] removed from the market, because we are scheduled to revisit the master plan and we wanted to ensure that sale of the properties was still valid," said John Pesta, director of Capital Projects.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

McClintock, part of the Wilkes University campus for 59 years, was recently sold.



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SG spends \$2,000 for card swipe system: latest example of wasteful government spending

BY THE BEACON
Editorial Board

The lock and key system was invented by the ancient Egyptians about 4,000 years ago.

It's a plain and simple system, but it works—and it's cheap by comparison to today's new systems like card swipes, for example.

At the September 9 Student Government (SG) meeting, representatives discussed the card swipe system that locks the SG office on the first floor of the Henry Student Center. The card swipe system that they have been using for close to two years is broken and needs replacing. SG faced two options: replace the card swipe system at a cost of \$2,000 (paid for with money from Wilkes University students' activity fees) or install an old-fashioned lock and key system (with actual keys), which would be paid for by the Facilities Department at little to no cost to students. After some discussion, one of the members, Katie Munchel of SG made a motion to purchase the \$2,000 card swipe system. The general board voted in favor of the motion, 16-6-0.

During the meeting, members of SG backed up their decision, arguing that with a traditional lock and key system, it is difficult to keep track of keys. Often times, students who graduate or no longer participate in SG keep their keys rather than return them to Public Safety, creating a potential security breach. SG argued that big ticket items for events like Casino Night and the Spring Fling are often stored in the office; a card swipe system would provide better security for items they keep in the office.

Recently, *The Beacon* faced a similar situation. Too many former Beacon staffers had keys to the newsroom in Conyngham Hall, where thousands of dollars of equipment, like computers, printers and digital cameras are housed. But, one phone call to Mr. John Pesta, director of capital projects, a few weeks ago was all it took to have new locks installed on all of the office doors and new keys issued to current Beacon staffers—at no cost to *The Beacon*. We wonder,

had *The Beacon* petitioned SG for \$2,000 to pay for a card swipe system, if our request would have been granted.

Likewise, the Shelburne Telecommunications Center, Wilkes' television studio, houses extremely expensive equipment in their facility in the basement of the Stark Learning Center—all protected by an old fashioned lock and key system. No card swipe system required here, either. All it takes is responsible leaders who will carefully monitor access to the keys.

The contents of one office or facility alone are not a justification for a \$2,000 card swipe system. The level of trust of the people who have access to the room is what really matters. If SG can't trust their own members—current and former—how can the student body trust them?

SG says that they will serve the students in Article II, Section I of their Constitution: "The purpose of the Wilkes University Student Government is to represent the entire student body..." They are entrusted to decide how to spend thousands of dollars every year with money furnished by each student's Activity Fee. They should be spending the money in ways that benefit all students, not just a select few—and in this case, themselves.

At the same meeting on September 9, SG denied funding for Inter-Residence Hall Council's (IRHC) fund request for a \$376. The money would have paid for a movie license for the September 24 Movies on the Greenway event, which would benefit all students on campus. The request was denied—and rightfully so—because IRHC already had \$8,000 in their budget. But, it is decisions like these that leave a bad taste in students' mouths.

One "Concerned Student" commented on wilkesbeacon.com, saying, "IRHC is rejected money to fund an event for EVERYONE on campus and instead, our money is unwisely spent to purchase a lock and key system that only benefits Student Government...pathetic."

Of course, SG needs a new lock and key system. It is important that every building and office on campus is secure. But there was no need for a \$2,000 card-swipe system



Current lock system to be replaced located outside the SG office on the first floor of the sub.

when an old-school lock and key system could have been installed at no cost. SG should take more seriously their responsibility for allocating students' fees. And, likewise, more students should get involved in the process, by joining SG, attending meetings and voicing their concerns.

To voice your opinion, write us at wilkesbeacon.oped@gmail.com or vote in our online poll at www.wilkesbeacon.com.

Beacon Poll

Do you think that Student Government spends too much money?

- Yes, they do not spend money where it is needed
- No, they spend the right amount of money
- No, they are not spending enough money

Last Week's Poll Results

53% • Yes, it sounds like fun
41% • No, it does not interest me
6% • I have other things to do
• I'm still not sure

Visit www.wilkesbeacon.com to cast your vote.

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Wilson's outburst suggests some traditions meant to be broken

BY DAVID LEWIS
Beacon Correspondent

On September 9, 2009, South Carolinian Representative Joe Wilson created controversy with his outburst at the Congressional meeting. President Obama, who was addressing congress on issues of health care, was interrupted as he discussed how his plan would take into account for illegal immigrants. As he spoke the words "the reforms I'm proposing would not apply to those who are here illegally," Representative Wilson responded immediately with the proclamation, "you lie!"

The outburst is a clear sign that either applauding or not applauding (sometimes booing) does not satisfy the needs of the American citizens or governing officials to voice their opinions.

Traditions such as the lecture style of

aminer has since explained the reason for the outburst. According to *The Examiner*, under Obama's proposal known officially as "H.R. 3200," the bill does not require health care officials to check for citizenship before providing care.

The debate over which health care system is going to be implemented by the successor of former President George W. Bush has been going on since the 2008-2009 nomination race. Because neither side is willing to talk through the the issue, the headlines we've seen for the past year and a half usually talk about how the Democrats and GOP's view of health care differ instead of how this crisis is being solved.

Given the current state of affairs in our own country--the bailouts, the credit-crisis, and of course, health care, and our handling of the Iraq war--the level of anxiety among American citizens and officials is height-

"...Democrats and Republicans waste too much time muckraking and kitchen sinking while people are in need of a better health care system."

congressional meetings have little to no validity anymore. When it comes to issues such as health care, Democrats and Republicans waste too much time muckraking and kitchen sinking while people are in need of a better health care system. If the President must address Congress on issues, then instituting a interactional-lecture format would be much more productive for the law makers of this country and ultimately also for American citizens.

In an interactional-lecture format, ideas are proposed and the audience is either receptive or against the proposition. Instead of having representatives on both sides respond to each other's accusations in breaking news press conferences, conversing with each other in an organized manner on live television would produce faster results than what the citizens of America are seeing right now.

Joe Wilson's interjection of frustration was due to a legitimate piece of knowledge he had. While he did not clarify this by yelling "you lie," *The Washington Ex-*

ened and made apparent through Wilson's out of line outburst.

Wilson's actions, when looked at against this country's historical backdrop, are not that far out of bounds. According to the U.S. Senate's official website (senate.gov), during a meeting of governing officials on February 22, 1902, a junior senator, also from South Carolina, named John McLaurin stormed the Congressional meeting chamber and accused a Democrat of lying. Representative Wilson's actions did not result in a punch in the face--the response McLaurin received for his outburst. However, this senator of the past provoked a change in Rule XIX: "No senator in debate shall, directly or indirectly, by any form of words impute to another Senator or to other Senators any conduct or motive unworthy or unbecoming a Senator."

McLaurin's actions influenced change in Congressional meetings and inspired a new rule. Perhaps Wilson's actions, too, will inspire a change. Perhaps our leaders will begin engaging in real dialogue once again.



*The
Observatory*

Young women and SUVs an unnecessary combination



BY MATTHEW GOGAS
Opinion Editor

A common scenario plays out for me each and everyday when I am walking down the street. I am on my way to my destination and I happen to notice an attractive young lady slipping on her big bug-eyed sunglasses and hopping into her cute little SUV. She may pull out her cellphone and start gabbing away or she blasts the volume on her radio and pulls away singing and swaying her head to the music. That happens at least twice a week and whenever I see something so unnecessary in large numbers, I feel I must comment about it.

So, the grand question to my whole argument here is: why do these young ladies have these SUVs and do they really need them? My guess is that they think they need the "sport utility options" that they are afforded with their SUVs and no, I do not think they really need them. I can almost positively say that the majority of these types of SUV owners are not doing any kind of off-roading or trips that require big trunk space, so why buy them?

The majority of SUVs cost in excess of \$20,000 and according to the Department of

Transportation, the average fuel economy for an SUV is a measley 18 mpg. So not only are you paying more upfront for the vehicle itself, but over time you are pouring more money into it just to drive it. This makes no sense to me. Even if you go camping or something like that once a year and the options you have with your SUV come in handy, does that really warrant owning one for seven or eight years? You would not buy a jet ski if you went jet skinng once a year would you? I think not.

I am not going to keep pointing figures at the drivers of these things because let's not forget who actually pays for them: mommy and daddy. So, they are more to blame than anyone else. I understand where they are coming from though. Parents assume that SUVs are safer than mid-sized cars and in most cases they are right. They just want to protect their children from reckless drivers and themselves. According to a study conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety in 2005, the fatality rate for an SUV is 47 per million drivers compared to 86 per million drivers for cars, so you are most likely safer in an SUV. Though these statistics still hold up in 2009, there are other factors to consider here. In an study conducted by the same organization in this year, only 4 out of 16 SUV models received a positive roof test rating, and roof strength

plays a major role in SUV safety because they are prone to rolling in a crash.

So not only are they expensive and have lower fuel economy, but the majority of SUVs are becoming more unsafe every year. These are all things for you to think about the next time you go car shopping parents and young ladies.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Escalation in Afghanistan not even close to resembling Vietnam

BY MATTHEW GOGAS

Opinion Editor

In case you have been living under a rock for the past few months, you might be interested to know that Afghanistan held their second presidential elections since Taliban removal of power in 2002 on August 20, 2009. What does this mean?

Well, to the average Beacon reader it means almost nothing unless you follow foreign politics or you are deeply concerned about the United States' increasing presence in Afghanistan, but these are things you should be talking about because your opinion matters in the grand scheme of things.

The election itself, wrought with fraud and intimidation both before and after it took place, has stirred up major controversy in the global community and led to an increase in insurgent violence in Afghanistan. Candidates were refused the right to campaign or were threatened in Afghani provinces by both the Taliban and other militant groups. Illegal voter cards were bought and sold. The U.S. has been accused of influencing the election, which has created even more attacks on U.S. Troops in Afghani-

stan. The insurgent attacks have continued to leave hundreds dead or wounded every day since election.

As the need for more U.S. troops grows to deal with the situation, nearly every major news publication in the United States

is speculating that the escalation in Afghanistan could lead to a war with similar

asures, and many other pressing issues that require immediate and continued attention.

President Obama has publicly stated that there are issues here in the United States that require more attention than war in Afghanistan and/or Pakistan. The only reason we are still fighting in the Middle East is to help their governments secure better control

68,000 in Afghanistan. These numbers are not even close to being of the same magnitude. I am sorry, but Afghanistan is not Vietnam.

President Obama has publicly stated that very same thing in an interview with The New York Times and CNBC last week.

When he was asked if he was worried about repeating Lyndon B. Johnson's fate, President Obama said: "You have to learn lessons from history. On the other hand, each historical moment is different. You never step into the same river twice. And so Afghanistan is not Vietnam," said President Obama. I trust his opinion and so should you. These are fragile times in the United States and our government is right to focus on issues here at home.

Look at the situation like this: you can sit around all day worrying and complaining about the U.S Government and their fruitless wars in the Middle East, which will never give you any sort of satisfaction other than thinking you are telling people things they do not already know. Or, you can rest easy knowing that your current elected officials will make decisions based upon your best interests (not starting a major war and repeat the mistakes of their predecessors). I know I will rest easy.

"You never step into the same river twice. And so Afghanistan is not Vietnam."

- President Obama

characteristics to that of the Vietnam War. Newsweek, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and many other publications are all agreeing that Afghanistan could be the next Vietnam, but I disagree for many reasons.

We are in the midst of an economic meltdown, a health care crisis, home foreclo-

over these terrorist groups.

More importantly to the argument, the United States does not have the same military presence that President Lyndon B. Johnson had in Vietnam. The largest number of troops that the United States had in Vietnam was close to 500,000 compared to Obama's planned increase to a maximum of

Polachek Gartley would restore county's rep from bench

BY JEFFERY NIEMIEC

Correspondent

We've heard these headlines before.

"The most egregious abuse of power in the history of the American legal system" (ABC's 20/20, March 27, 2009).

"A system wrought with inefficiencies, political agendas and personal allegiances" (The Times Leader, March 29, 2009).

"The most corrupt county in the country" (Ripoff Report, June 23, 2009).

Needless to say, not much shocks us here in Luzerne County any more. Something that may actually surprise residents about this area, however, would be real attempts to clean up our dismal public reputation. Is it even possible? Could politics in this area ever again be viewed in a favorable light? If one judicial candidate has any say in the matter, the answer to that question is a resounding yes.

On Thursday, Wilkes University hosted that candidate. She strolled around Club Day, talking to students and getting their perspective on the current political climate. Her name is Tina Polachek Gartley

and she's interested in what you have to say. Far from the standard politicians we normally get to choose between, Tina has unique insight and always remembers who she's serving: the people. In her eighteenth year of practicing law, she specializes in sexual assault and domestic violence cases and has been an active voice in the fight to end violence against women. Proudly serving on a tri-county Sexual Assault Task Force, Polachek Gartley lends her expertise where she can and volunteers to speak at law enforcement classes.

Polachek Gartley entered this race without political connections or an agenda; she decided to run for the Court of Common Pleas because of the circumstances that face Luzerne County. She may be new to the political scene, but she is no stranger to the courtroom and even worked as an Assistant District Attorney. If like me, you aren't used to politicians being concerned with what you have to say. She is concerned-Tina Polachek Gartley is the new voice for Luzerne County, and if November 3 turns out the way she hopes, she will be serving the residents of Luzerne County in the very near future. Get out and vote.



Polachek Gartley (right) and Wilkes University's Sharon Castano Coordinator of Student Deveopment (left) attend club day, while Gartley mingles with Wilkes students by talking to them and getting their perspectives on the current political climate here in Luzerne County.



Lifestyles

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

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9

Homza recalls basic training, moving up in ranks, three roadside bombs

RUTH WHISPELL

Assistant Lifestyles Editor

In their senior year of high school, most students are busy applying to different colleges and universities, crossing their fingers and hoping for acceptance to that one special school that would make their dreams come true. In June 2003, Jason Homza's dreams for his future rested not in the hands of a college acceptance letter, but in the United States Marine Corps.

Homza, now a sophomore earth and environmental science major at Wilkes, decided to join the Marines in 2003 because of his family--his brother was a Marine--and the 9/11 attacks. His family was extremely supportive of his decision. After graduating high school from Wyoming Valley West, Homza, a Kingston native, began boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina. After finishing with boot camp, he received a meritorious promotion from Private to First Class.

After boot camp Homza continued onto the school of Infantry in North Carolina and left there with another meritorious promotion from First Class to Lance Corporal. The role of a Marine who is Private, First Class, or Lance Corporal is to train in their Military Occupational Specialty (MOS), study leadership, and take on assignments. Homza's MOS was an Infantry Assault Man. Corporals' and Sergeants' main job is to lead junior Marines to ensure missions are accomplished. Noncommissioned Officers (NCO's) are the first line of leadership contingent in the Marine Corps.

To move up a rank, Homza had to earn points based on different categories like shooting ability, fitness test scores, knowl-

edge, staying at the rank a soldier is in for a defined minimum period of time, among other requirements. Homza was in the highest bracket of fitness scores. A Marine can also be promoted meritoriously, which means being promoted before reaching the minimum time at the rank.

It is a promotion based on merit, where Marines excel at one rank and are moved up to

marksman with both a rifle and a pistol.

"It's rare to go up five ranks in just four years, and I was a Sergeant before I got out," said Homza.

After leaving the school of infantry in North Carolina, Homza was stationed in Georgia for two years with a security force unit, and then con-

The area of Iraq in which Homza was stationed was Haditha and two other towns, which were referred to as the "Triangle of Death."

"From the time we got there to the time we left, we pretty much took it from [looking] like the wild west to really a controlled area. The kids were going back to school and people were walking the

streets, not afraid to leave their houses; we made a big difference over there," said Homza.

According to Homza, the base in Iraq was a group of old buildings in the middle of Haditha, which they took over, fortified, and called home for seven months. The soldiers also spent a lot of time away from the base, in the town. They would stay in a house in the town and take turns guarding the house and sleeping at night.

Homza experienced three roadside bomb attacks during his seven months in Iraq.

"Thank God I'm in one piece," Homza said.

He was in the Marines for a total of four years, and his contract ended in September of 2007. He then enrolled at Wilkes for spring 2008.

He is currently a sophomore at Wilkes. Homza is an earth and environmental science major working on a secondary education minor. After graduating from Wilkes, Homza hopes to get a job teaching high school science.

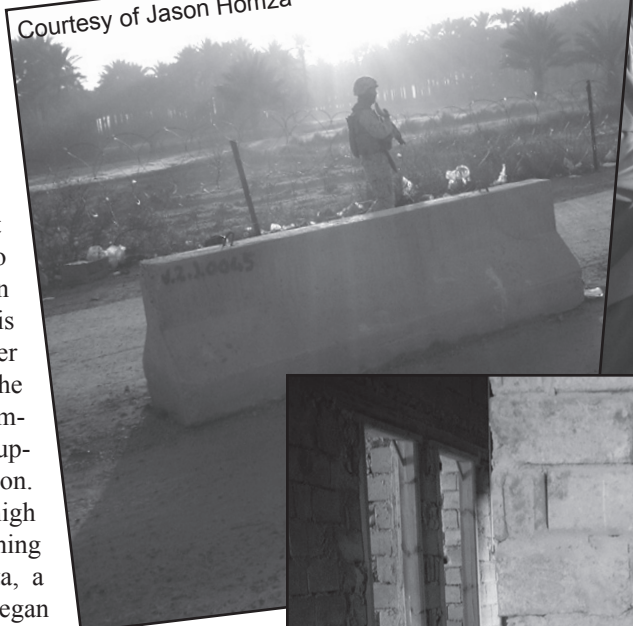
"I always enjoyed science in school; it was my favorite subject. So when I decided that I wanted to pursue a teaching career, choosing science was a no brainer," said Homza.

for more information check out...

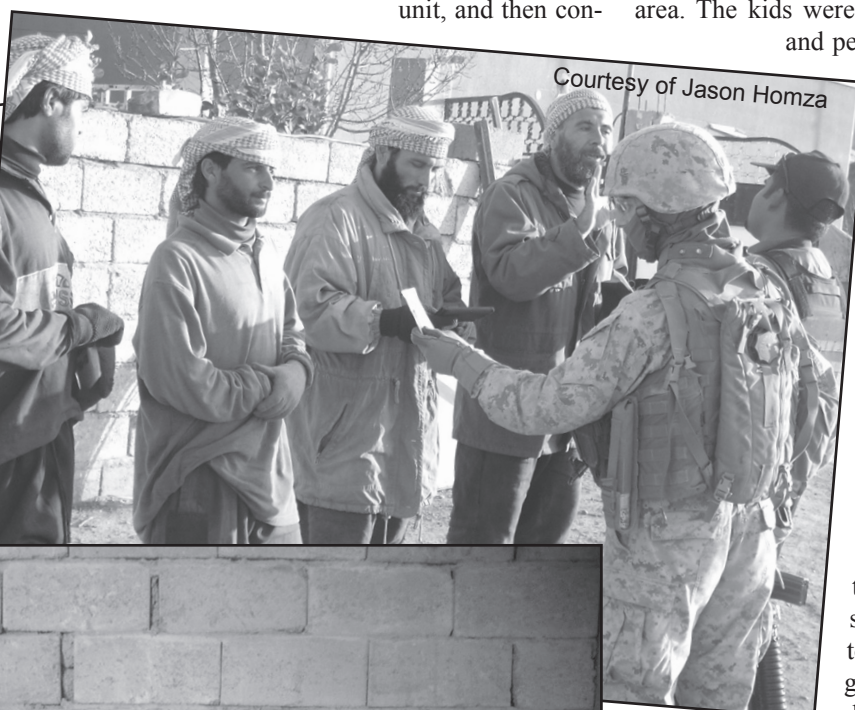
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GO!

Courtesy of Jason Homza



Courtesy of Jason Homza



Courtesy of Jason Homza

Top Left: Homza patrolling the streets in Iraq. Top Right: Homza checking the IDs of some of the men to make sure their names aren't on the Marines' watch list. Bottom: Homza on in full uniform, taking a rest while on duty in Iraq.

the next rank early, Homza explained.

"If you're basically at the top of what you're doing you get promoted before you should; it was already less than a year, and I had gone through three ranks," said Homza. He has received a badge for being an expert

continued onto Hawaii for a few months. After leaving Hawaii, Homza was deployed to Iraq for seven months on a combat tour.

"You'll hear a lot of people do a year or a year and a half, and it's a non-combat tour," said Homza.

Student of the Week: Megan Dickinson

BY RUTH WHISPELL
Assistant Lifestyles Editor

Megan Dickinson is Wilkes University's junior class president. Dickinson, a 20-year-old nursing major, wasn't involved in much during her senior year of high school, so when she came to Wilkes, she was bound and determined to join some type of extra-curricular activity.

Along with being the president of the junior class, Dickinson is president of the Nursing Student Organization (NSO) and a student ambassador. She also tutors nursing students and is on the Committee for Curriculum.

"Coming in my freshmen year, I met so many people who were older than me and were on Student Government that kept telling me 'get involved and do what you can to stay busy, it keeps you on task,'" said Dickinson.

Because of Dickinson's involvement in the Wilkes community, she is *The Beacon's* Student of the Week.

The Beacon: Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Dickinson: When I graduate I'll have my Bachelors of Science and Nursing and then I wanted to spend two years in Hawaii, live out there and travel out there.

The Beacon: Describe yourself in three words.

Dickinson: Determined, Stubborn and Enthusiastic

The Beacon: Finish the sentence, "My friends would be surprised to know that..."

Dickinson: I feel like a lot of people see me as this person who does nursing and does Student Government, and does well in classes but...I still get overwhelmed just like any nursing student does and I ask for help. I have no problem coming to a tutor, even though I am a tutor; some people don't see that about other people.



Photo courtesy of Megan Dickinson

for more information check out...

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Club Day attracts old and new clubs



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

Students stand at a table for Wilkes' radio station, WCLH, at Club Day on Thursday, September 17. WCLH is just one of the many clubs that showcased themselves at Club Day. Club Day was held in Marts Gymnasium and featured information tables, music, and food for students, staff, and faculty.

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College Days: *Merryman goes from Beatle-maniac to Swahili speaker*

BY LEEANN SEARFOSS

Lifestyles Editor

Editors note: *This article is a continuation of a series that serves to connect the members of the Wilkes University community to one another through shared experiences of college life.*

Twenty-five years worth of correspondence sits in Dr. James L. Merryman's home. These letters are from his mother, who wrote to him every week while he lived in Kenya. Africa was a far cry from Merryman's roots in the small, small town of Shickley, Nebraska where his life was planned out before it ever really started.

"I grew up in Shickley. It was a town of 400. A whopping 400," recalls Merryman.

This "big, little town," as the sign in front of the community building proclaims, carried James Merryman through its straight and narrow roads until his graduation from high school in 1962. Merryman's graduating class, which was comprised of a mere 19 students, was "one of the big ones." While many of his friends traveled to the University of Nebraska, a young and complacent Merryman took his path to Nebraska Wesleyan University.

"Some of my friends went off to the University of Nebraska, which had about 20,000 students and got chewed up and spat out," said Merryman. "I went to the smaller school. But even going to the smaller school was a dramatic, dramatic change."

Merryman's college career was wedged between what he refers to as "the bookends" of a cultural time period.

With the 60's in full swing, Merryman entered the college atmosphere just a few short months after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech and the March on Washington. This is the first bookend.

"It was an exciting time. Coming from that part of Nebraska, we didn't have a lot of ethnic minorities. So, having this consciousness and awareness of what was going on outside, it was so dramatically different," remembered Merryman.

With a little help from Bob Dylan, Merryman believes this period set the stage for "times [that were] a changin'."

The cultural shift happening around Merryman and his fellow classmates kept "changin'" when two months into the first semester, President John Kennedy was shot.

"Oh my gosh! Talk about being knocked off your feet and obliterated. There was nothing like that in my lifetime. I hadn't seen World War II or the Depression or anything immediate and dramatic. It was a very heavy time," stated Merryman.

This "era of sadness," as Merryman

described it, shrouded his initial college experience. The heaviness of the times was offset, however, with one very important, positive thing: The Beatles.

"In February of '64, The Beatles appeared on 'Ed Sullivan'. These were my benchmarks. I became this Beatlemaniac. You wouldn't know it now, but I had this crew cut...I had that Beatle haircut," said Merryman with a chuckle.



Photo courtesy of James Merryman

Dr. Merryman sits in a Kenyan jungle with a gorilla during one of his stints in the Peace Corps. Merryman became interested in anthropology while traveling and working with the Peace Corps.

The freshmen class of '63 was brought back into reality with the rising of civil rights, protests, and the onslaught of Vietnam.

Through the tangle of his first two years at college, Merryman began to take "notice of the courage and bravery of others" who used their college experience to further not just their education, but themselves as people.

"I was still in this naive and provincial stage. I was astounded at those who made decisions because they wanted to and not because their parents said it was okay," said Merryman.

Merryman made one of those decisions himself by his sophomore year. He applied to be part of an exchange between Nebraska Wesleyan University and Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee.

"The two presidents of each college had gone to school together and gotten together at a reunion, where they came up with this idea for an exchange," stated Merryman. "This was very significant, because it was one of the first things I did of my own choosing, as opposed to 'I think I should...'

or 'my parents expect me to...'"

Merryman quickly found himself in the racial minority while at Lane College, a primarily black school, at a time when persecution was still alive and well. He did not hesitate, however, to stand beside his fellow Jackson classmates, singing "We Shall Overcome" and joining the NAACP.

"We still automatically went to the balcony at the movie theater. It was no prob-

le. His taste for other perspectives and goal of gaining a better cultural awareness only grew stronger the day the Peace Corps recruiter came to Lane College.

Knowing he wanted more than just a "slice of the American pie," Merryman took it upon himself to spend quality time with the Peace Corps recruiter.

Merryman took the exam and applied for the Peace Corps and within months, he was invited to join and work in Kenya.

"Coming from that little farm boy, the forces of history were carrying me along for this ride," said Merryman.

Trekking to Kenya and helping impoverished countries create systems of regulation would not come for Merryman until after he graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University. He needed to finish school before he could travel around the world to gain an even larger cultural education.

The Peace Corps became Merryman's second bookend, closing the gap on his undergraduate college career. He would then travel to Kenya and back to the United States to enroll in the Master's program in anthropology at Binghamton University. Without his cultural and personal education while in school and while traveling the world, Merryman may never have made it out of that "little big town" of Shickley, Nebraska.

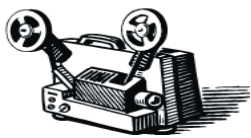
"I always thought I would get those education credits and teach high school in a tiny little town no more than an hour from my family. That was my script," said Merryman.

Using the bookends of his life for structural support, Merryman rewrote his script and filled his entire bookshelf with his personal college story.

“ In his own words, Merryman gets senioritis:

The summer before my senior year, I had all this language training before leaving for Kenya. I had all this training in Swahili, and I came back to my school for third year French. Not paying attention, the professor is talking to me in French, and I am responding in Swahili. He is saying 'Have you ever had French before in your life?' and I said 'Well, yeah I just have to think about it a little.' Afterwards, the professor decided to give me a stack of French plays to read and then give me a 'critique en francais' to see if I could stay in the class. I thought, 'I'm a senior. I have to graduate!' I went back to my room and pulled from whatever classes I could to create a minor in philosophy. I was a senior; I had to graduate!

”



"Movies on the Greenway"-p. 13

A & E

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

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12

Demetri Martin scheduled to crack up Wilkes Sept. 25

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN
A&E Editor

This Friday, September 25, students will be entertained with the comical and artistic stylings of Demetri Martin in Wilkes University's Marts Gym.

Martin, a former New York University law school student, has been climbing the comedy ladder. Now seriously pursuing a comedy career, he's come out with a stand-up CD/DVD release titled "These Are Jokes," and has since been featured on various TV shows, such as The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. Martin was also a staff writer for the show, Late Night with Conan O' Brien and in 2007 he came out with his own one-hour special on Comedy Central titled, "Demetri Martin. Person." Martin is currently starring in Ang Lee's latest film, Taking Woodstock, which is in theaters now.

Most people know him from his new TV show, Important Things with Demetri Martin, on Comedy Central. The show first premiered earlier this year in February and has been a hit ever since. This show allows Martin to explore many of life's most amusing topics and elaborate on them in his own way.

"Each episode focuses on a single topic through the prism of Demetri's unique point of view, whether it's apples or the afterlife," said the official website for the show, http://www.comedycentral.com/shows/important_things/index.jhtml.

Erin Sweet, president of the Programming Board, said that deciding to book Martin

was easy. Last year, students were mentioning his name and requesting him. And, as the event nears, student ticket sales are up, and students all over campus have been talking about it with anticipation. As of right now, about 425 tickets have been sold so far. Sweet predicts sales to rise dramatically a day or two before the event. They are expecting 1,000-1,500 tickets to be sold altogether.

Student Government allocates \$175,000 to the Programming Board, which is then split in half for the fall and spring semesters. In other words, they have \$87,500 to please the student body per semester. Since it had been three years for a comedian of Martin's scale, Martin was affordable. Lewis Black was the last big-time comedian that was presented at Wilkes.

Voted one of the "25 Funniest People in America" by Entertainment Weekly, Martin is a highly anticipated performer. Tickets are still available at the Henry Student Center information desk and will also be sold at the door the night of the show. Student tickets are \$15 each, with a maximum of two tickets per ID. Tickets for the general public are \$25 each. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the show starts at 8:00 p.m.

"It's the first event that I actually want to go to. It's the best event that they've hosted since I've been here," said junior Matthew Duffy, 20, a history and secondary education major.

Martin could not be reached for comment on this event.



Photo courtesy of Jahmitza Perez

Mandy Petrosky, a senior integrated media major, takes a break from schoolwork to enjoy comedic relief from Demetri Martin by watching his clips online and is anticipating his performance this Friday.

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Tom Reilly

Greenway provides big screen fun this Thursday

BY BRIE FRIEDMAN
A&E Editor

The greenway will be more than just a field for frisbee, a game of catch or football this Thursday, September 24. Inter-Residence Hall Council (IRHC) and the Commuter Council (CC) are hosting "Movies on the Greenway" at 9 p.m., showcasing the movie "Transformers."

Movie snacks will be available to create a more theater-like environment. Since popcorn, snow cones, and cotton candy will be offered to students, no one has to worry about hauling treats.

"Movies on the Greenway" has been in the works for a while now, but putting together an event like this isn't as simple as everyone might think. A "blanket license" is required in order to present movies to a large group. When a consumer purchases a movie, copyrights allow that consumer to watch it with their immediate family members. It is illegal to showcase a DVD film to a large group--an unknown fact to many people.

The Federal Copyright Act, Title 17 of the U.S. Code, oversees motion pictures and how they are used or potentially abused. According to Movie Licensing USA, "Neither the rental nor the purchase of a movie carries with it the right to show the movie publicly outside the home, unless the site where the movie is used is properly licensed for public exhibition. Ownership of the movie and the right to use it publicly are two separate issues. The copyright holder retains exclusive public performance rights."

Christina D'Ippolito, president of IRHC, said that this is one of the club's bigger events for the fall. It is a trial run to see how many students will attend. If it is an impressive turnout, there is potential to purchase the necessary blanket license for future showings. But D'Ippolito said they will decide about future licenses--which are costly to obtain-- after they evaluate Thursday evening's turnout. D'Ippolito did not wish to comment on the cost of the blanket license. IRHC was, however, able to purchase a one-time only movie license for Thursday evening, which cost \$396.

"I think it's a great idea because it's a smart combination of students, entertainment, and enjoying the Greenway together in an unconventional way," said senior Adam Szumski, 21, political science major.

If students want "Movies on the Greenway" to be a recurring event, they'll need to show their support for it by turning out Thursday night. If the event is a success, future licences may be purchased for similar outdoor or indoor events in the coming months.

If you plan to attend the premiere of "Movies on the Greenway," bring a blanket, along with a group of friends, and enjoy Shia LaBeouf and co-star Megan Fox on the big screen.

In the event of unfavorable weather conditions, the movie will be moved into Breiseth 107.



The Beacon/Tom Reilly

This Thursday, the Greenway will be used for the big screen. Do you think "Movies on the Greenway," is a great idea? Let us know what you think by commenting on our site.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

THE COLONEL SEARCH

BY MICHELE FLANNERY
Business Manager

C	O	L	O	N	E	L	A	H	C	A	D	B	O
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Square met city's expectations



The Beacon/Tom Reilly
About 1,500 students attended *Party on the Square* this past Wed., a new record for the City. Wilkes students had the most attendance with 713 colonels, "the most students from one campus in the history of the event," said Bridget Giunta.

Artist Spotlight: *Dealer in Wares* Rocking Wilkes-Barre one show at a time

BY: KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Assistant A&E Editor

Dealer in Wares is a musical group of two local young adults--Sarah Yzkanin and Noa Spott--who enjoy rocking out and impressing crowds that come to see them play. Yzkanin is a human development and family studies student at Penn State University, Worthington Scranton campus and Spott is a Scranton High School senior. Yzkanin, 19, agreed to sit down for a Q&A session earlier this week to tell The Beacon a little more about *Dealer in Wares*.

The Beacon: How did you become Dealer in Wares? Did you know each other before or was it by pure luck?

Yzkanin: I founded *Dealer in Wares* in February of 2007. Noa and I met through a mutual friend. He had been involved in different musical projects that didn't develop into anything and he happened to be looking for a band when I was looking for a bassist. We got together and hit it off so well that he was offered a position in the band in January of 2009. As things continued to develop, Noa moved into a partnership role with me and became a co-writer and our lead guitarist. We use various back up musicians for our live performances.

The Beacon: How would you describe the genre of music that you perform?

Yzkanin: Our music is rock, plain and simple.

The Beacon: What's the craziest experience you have ever encountered while performing?

Yzkanin: We won a spot performing at the Dewey Beach Music Conference in the summer of 2008. We were scheduled to play on the deck of the Rusty Rudder. Rain was predicted so they covered the area with tents and tarps. A true tropical storm developed with high speed winds and gushes of rain and we were literally playing within feet of the bay. I was petrified that I was going to get electrocuted and die [laughing]. That, or the time we were covering "The Jack" by AC/DC and two girls pulled up a chair and started doing a pretty intense lap dance a few feet in front of me. I had to keep my eyes closed so I didn't laugh.

The Beacon: Who are some of your favorite musicians?

Yzkanin: I grew up listening to classic rock. My favorite bands include *Free* and *Bad Company*. I also have a huge grunge influence and other favorites include *Alice in Chains*, *Nirvana*, *Mudhoney* and *Soundgarden*. Noa has a heavy rock influence including *Godsmack*, *Alice in Chains*, and *Pearl Jam*.

The Beacon: Where can our readers see you perform or find out more information about *Dealer in Wares*?

Yzkanin: We are currently cutting way back on our performances because we're hard at work in the studio on our debut album. The performances were affecting my voice so we needed to focus on recording. You can check out some of our progress at www.dealerinwares.com. Once this album is completed we hope to be back to a full performance schedule.



Courtesy of Sarah Yzkanin

Dealer in Wares performs a show during the summer. Keep an eye out for this breakout group and check their website for the latest news on their debut album set, to be completed in the fall of 2009. You can check out live performances of these talented young musicians on YouTube. Just search *Dealer in Wares* and enjoy!

THE DEEVOQUIP!

BY DAVID LEWIS

Correspondent

Use the clue provided in order to decipher the meaning of the puzzle. The clue represents a letter that can be used to guess what other letters within each word are. Through the process of elimination and knowledge of vocabulary, solving the puzzle depends upon how well you can deduce the possibility of one letter equaling another. Once you assign a letter to equal another, the letter cannot be changed for the remaining letters in the puzzle. Good Luck!

INGCHZ MJNKM CH N MJNKMUL-JRUH QNH OU SJHU PKCHZ NH

NLLNT JW WJJS CMUIK, QJHKCSULCHZ NFF WJJSK MBNM N

MJNKMUL-JRUH MJNKMK OUQJIU MJNKMUS!

This week's clues: N=A, U=E

Check next week's issue of *The Beacon* for the answer!

Answer from last week: IF A COLONEL LOSES ITS COOL, IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT THE COLONEL POPPED!



Horror and Humor on “Sorority Row”

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Assistant A&E Editor

If you think “Sorority Row” is another typical slasher movie, you’re half right.

This movie tries to find the middle ground between terror and gore. Although the movie never seems to fully achieve the middle ground, it’s definitely an entertaining movie with just enough of both to appease both the gore and corny slasher-seeking movie-goers. This movie seems to be another twist on the plot of “I Know What You Did Last Summer,” with the serial killer out to get the college kids.

The movie begins with Megan (Audrina Partridge), the victim of a prank which has taken a turn for the worst. Her cheating ex-boyfriend, Garrett (Matt O’Leary), believes that he gave her too many drugs in her drink which caused Megan to appear lifeless.

Garrett joins Megan’s sorority sisters on a trip to a secluded location to dispose of her body. However, none of the girls ever think to mention to Garrett that Megan isn’t actually dead and that he’s secretly part of a practical joke to get revenge.

To bring on the gore, Garrett impales Megan with a tire iron, killing her. The outspoken “queen” of the bunch, Jessica (Leah Pipes), convinces everyone to throw Megan’s body down a mineshaft and continue on with their lives as if nothing had ever happened.

Time passes after Megan’s death. The girls’ college graduation approaches and they still act as though nothing happened before, as if Megan never truly existed, when they’re all together. In reality, it’s eating them alive.

Ellie (Rumer Willis) cries in almost every scene that follows, torn over the plan of action to dispose of the body. Claire (Jamie Chung) acts as Jessica’s right-hand woman, but still has very unsettling thoughts about what happened. Cassidy (Briana Evigan) never fully approved of their plans for Megan’s body and holds these regrets inside. Chugs (Margo Harshman) is constantly drinking and taking prescription drugs to alleviate the pain of what they did to her.

Soon after their graduation, the killer is unleashed wearing the usual dark cloak, carrying his weapon of choice--this time it’s a tire iron. Pretty creepy, eh? The killing begins, random girls fall victim to the murderer one by one, each death gorier than the previous one.

Like most of the recently released slasher movies of the past couple years, this flick has the 4 Bs: boys, booze, blood and boobs. So if this is right up your alley, you should check out the movie.

Although, I must admit this movie is slightly different than the rest. Instead of trying to create a box office hit with excessive gore, humor is included to create a much welcomed twist to the usual horror plot and gives the characters depth. The film is actually quite funny when characters add their unique personalities to the plot. Chugs adds much

sarcasm to the overall gruesome acts in the movie and Jessica has one-liners that keep the plot on a constant flow.

It’s hard to believe, but in this movie, you’ll pick favorite characters and you’ll actually feel sad and upset when they’re killed off. There are several characters who are killed and hold no special purpose. However, you care about the entire group more so than the random deaths that take place throughout the movie. That’s a major difference from all other horror flicks I’ve seen in the past.

The movie progresses with death after death, but lacks a convincing plot scheme. There reaches a point in the movie where all you really care about are the deaths and the main characters; the plot becomes somewhat of a blur. If you want to see this movie, leave your desire to understand it at home and just enjoy the film for its real purpose: to scare you and make your stomach churn.

Rating: 4 out of 5

What’s Happening Around Wilkes-Barre

BY KRISTEN KARPINSKI

Assistant A&E Editor

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

- Dave Matthews Band @ Toyota Pavilion (Montage Mtn.)
• Cost: \$39.50 - \$70 - Starts at 7 p.m.
- Polish Room presents Alex Storzynski, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and President of the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City, talking about his new book and doing a book signing
• 6:30-8 p.m. in the Farley Library / Free admission

Thursday, September 24, 2009

- George Wesley Small Ax Orchestra @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains
• FREE - Starts at 10 p.m.
- IRHC’s Movie on the Greenway - *Transformers* / 9 p.m.
- Official Back to School Party feat. D Nellz & Tri-State Family @ Club Evolution at The Woodlands
• 18 or older - Cost: \$5 with college ID / 10 p.m.

All Weekend Long

- “Rent” @ Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre
• Fri. & Sat. - 8 p.m.; Sun. - 3 p.m.
• Cost: \$18 - Free for students with ID
- *Trails of Terror Halloween Walk* @ Wyoming Avenue, Exeter (Sept. 25-Oct. 31)
• Cost: \$5 - Dusk until 11 p.m.

Friday, September 25, 2009

- Demetri Martin @ Wilkes University
• Cost: \$15 for students (2 tickets per ID) \$25 for GA
• Doors open at 7 p.m. - Show starts at 8 p.m.
- Nepal Underground/Spirit Juice/Poison IV/Gunk Thirst @ Café Metropolis, Wilkes-Barre
• Cost: \$6 - Starts at 8 p.m.
- Phoenix/Drop Veil/Len Spinelli @ Club JAM, Pittston
• Cost: \$5 - Starts at 9 p.m.
- Cabinet/Waterband @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains
• Cost: \$8 - Starts at 8 p.m.

Saturday, September 26, 2009

- Josh Turner @ The Bloomsburg Fair
• Cost: \$36 (track) & \$31 (grandstand)
• Starts at 7:30 p.m.
- The Silent Treatment/A Golden Era/This A.M. Static/Amora Bliss @ Café Metropolis, Wilkes-Barre
• Cost: \$7 - Starts at 8 p.m.
- Ethereal Collapse @ Club JAM, Pittston
• Cost: \$5 - Starts at 9 p.m.
- The Woody Brown Project @ River Street Jazz Café, Plains
• Cost: \$8 - Starts at 10 p.m.
- Up and Coming Comedy @ Scranton Cultural Center
• Cost: \$11.75 - Starts at 8 p.m.

Sunday, September 27, 2009

- Miranda Lambert @ The Bloomsburg Fair
• Cost: \$36 (track) or \$31 (grandstand) / 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 28, 2009

- David Cook @ The Bloomsburg Fair
• Cost: \$44 (track) or \$39 (grandstand) / 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

- Trace Adkins @ The Bloomsburg Fair
• Cost: \$44 (track) or \$39 (grandstand) / 7:30 p.m.

Coming up next week...

- “The Love of the Nightingale” @ Wilkes University
• Cost: free to students, faculty and staff
• \$7 students and seniors; \$15 general admission
• Oct. 1-3 - 8 p.m. & Oct. 4 - 2 p.m.
- “Twelfth Night” by William Shakespeare @ King’s College Theatre
• Cost: \$7 (students/seniors) \$5 (GA)
• Starts at 7:30 p.m.

Don’t Forget...

*Bowling at Stanton Lanes: 2 games/rental - \$0 (with ID) 1 pass per week - Pick up pass at Student Center Info Desk

*Restaurant Gift Card Drawings: \$25 value - One entry per week: Enter name at Student Center Info Desk



EDITOR FACE OFF PAGE 18

SPORTS

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

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16

Men's and Women's soccer drop tough matchups

Teams find themselves under the .500 mark early on

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Sports Editor

WOMEN

After creeping back over the .500 mark with a late game-winning goal versus Moravian, the Lady Colonels fell back under after two tough losses last week to Lebanon Valley and Centenary, respectively.

Looking to feed of the momentum created the game before, the Lady Colonels' hosted the Lebanon Valley Dutchmen at Ralston Field for their second home game of the season. But with a chance to improve their record to 4-2, the Lady Colonels were shut out 3-0, the first time they have failed to score a goal all year.

Twenty minutes into the contest, Ely Kirkoff notched the first goal of the game with a perfectly aimed direct kick that just sailed by Goalie Brooke Keister. Just before the break, Lebanon Valley would find the back of the net once again. This time it was Stevi Laird who would put the Dutchmen up 2-0.

The Colonels came out of the break with fire, but were unable to find the back of the net. In the 87th minute of the game, Dutchmen forward Courtney Catania sealed the deal with her first goal of the game, putting the Dutchmen up for good by a score of 3-0.

Although Wilkes had the same amount of shots on the day with 15, Lebanon Valley made them count with six of theirs coming on goal.

"We weren't playing our game and working towards what we've been trying to accomplish in our practices," said Megan Clementson, a sophomore elementary education major. "Two out of the three goals Lebanon Valley scored were on direct kicks; the game was a lot closer than the score."

After a three day hiatus, the Lady Colonels laced it up again on Saturday to take on the Centenary College Cyclones at Ralston Field. The last time these two teams met was all the way back in 2006, when the Colonels pulled out a 2-0 victory on the same field.

The Cyclones played a little role reversal in Saturday's contest, coming on top by a score of 2-1.

The first half saw a great defensive showing from both teams, as they were only able to muster a combined six shots. With neither team able to find the back of the net, the two teams entered the break deadlocked.

The second half was a little different, as the teams combined for 17 shots and three goals. The Cyclones Brittany Overland connected with Sam Vanni twice in the second half, the second putting Centenary up by a score of 2-0. The Colonels would manage to get on the board in the second half when a crossing pass sent in front of the Cyclone goal was inadvertently tipped it into the net by a Cyclones player to make the score 2-1.

"We did some good things in the game," said junior forward Taryn Hallowell. "But it's fortunate we have a while before conference games begin because we have a ways to go to get where we want to be."

With the loss, the Lady Colonels fell to 3-4 on the season, but will look to rebound Friday when NYU makes the trek to Edwardsville. The last time these two teams met, NYU pulled out a tough 1-0 win, out shooting the Colonels 22-2.



The Beacon/Allison Roth

The Lady Colonels lost twice last week, falling to 3-4 on the season. Here, sophomore defender Krista Zawistowski attempts to beat Lebanon Valley's Meggy McLean.

MEN

It's been a tough start to the season for the men's soccer team. After jumping out to 2-0 to start the season, the team came into Wednesday's match up with 18th ranked Dickinson on a three game skid, scoring only one goal over that span.

The Colonels were looking to turn their season around, and a win against the 18th ranked team in the country would jolt in their system. Unfortunately, Dickinson's Thomas Parkinson ended those dreams quickly, as he scored the first goal of the game just six minutes into the game. Thomas would score again at the 63rd minute mark, and was followed by Andreas Israel in the 76th minute to give the Red Devils a 3-0 shutout, Wilkes 3rd scoreless outing in a row.

The Colonels were able to manage just four shots on the day compared to Dickinson's 23. Dickinson improved to 5-0 with the win as Wilkes record dropped to 2-5.



Courtesy of Marketing Communications

Wilkes goalkeeper Kaleb Smith attempts to block a shot here. Goals have been hard to come by for the Colonels lately, as they have scored only one the past four games.

Athlete Spotlight: Corey Gilroy, defensive playmaker

BY RYAN HOLMES

Assistant Sports Editor

Meet Corey Gilroy, a 6'1" 185 pound cornerback from Dunmore, Pennsylvania majoring in Elementary Education. The former Dunmore Buck transferred to Wilkes from Fordham University in 2006. Since then he has made quite an impact on the Wilkes University football team.

Gilroy has played in 33 games since becoming a Colonel. In that time, he has rounded up 52 unassisted tackles, 38 assisted tackles, eight interceptions, returning two of them for touchdowns, and a blocked field goal.

Upon discussing his senior season, Gilroy stated that he wanted to end his football career on a good note, culminating with another conference championship.

"The interceptions and all the stats are forgotten when the season is over, but to be able to get another championship ring would be a great way to end my career," said Gilroy.

Coming off consecutive seasons where wins were hard to come by for the team, Gilroy believes that this season will continue to be different. He stressed the fact that this year's team has a certain closeness that he felt when he first became a Colonel in 2006, which happens to be the last year the Colonels took home a conference championship, and feels that is the deciding factor when it comes to their success.

So far this season Gilroy has helped the Colonels improve to 2-0 with his playmaking ability. He has started this season off in



Courtesy of Jason Prushinski

Gilroy is tied for the team lead with two interceptions, returning one 88 yards for a touchdown last week Gilroy also came up with a momentum-shifting field goal block in week one, helping Wilkes notch their first victory of the season over Muhlenburg.

spectacular fashion by blocking a momentum changing field goal and intercepting both Muhlenberg and Montclair State's quarterbacks, stifling both teams' trips into the redzone. Versus Montclair State he returned the interception 88-yards for a touchdown giving the Colonels a commanding 30-3 lead.

"I was just trying to make a play, they [Montclair State] were driving on us and another score for them would have put them back in the game. I felt that if they came my way I had to make a play," Gil-

roy said about his 88-yard interception return for a touchdown.

The interception gave the Colonels a 27-point lead against a team that they scored a combined 13 points against in the past two meetings.

No matter what team they are playing, Gilroy always expects to make the big plays in every game.

"Whether it's making a tackle or getting an interception, I want to do something positive to help this team win," said Gilroy.

He credits himself as being a more ex-

emplary leader rather than someone who screams and yells to get the team "pumped up" and ready to play. He goes on the field, tries to make plays, and hopes the rest of the team will feed off him.

Even with the early season success against two teams the Colonels have not beaten since 1965 (Muhlenberg) and 1996 (Montclair State), Gilroy remains humbled. However, he is confident that another MAC (Middle Atlantic Conference) championship is in the works this season.

"Absolutely," exclaimed Gilroy. "We have a lot of good teams in this conference and we're going to be challenged every game, but I think if we stay hungry and play with a chip on our shoulder that we'll be in position to win the conference come November."

The Colonels next test comes this Saturday when they travel to Newport News, Virginia to take on Christopher Newport, who enter the game 1-1.

This will be the final non-conference test for the Colonels, who will be looking to avenge a 21-20 loss on a last second field goal.

"Christopher Newport is a very good and experienced team," said Gilroy. "We are going to be challenged on both sides of the ball and I'm looking forward to seeing how we respond and play coming out of the bye week. If we can leave Virginia with a win and be 3-0 heading into conference play, it will give us the utmost confidence in our abilities to win the MAC."

QUICK HITS

WAKELEY WONDERFUL FOR WILKES

The men's and women's cross country teams participated in the Misericordia Invitational on Saturday, September 19. The men's team placed eighth out of the eleven teams participating, while the women came in seventh place. Michelle Wakeley set the pace for all Wilkes University runners, placing 21st overall at the meet.

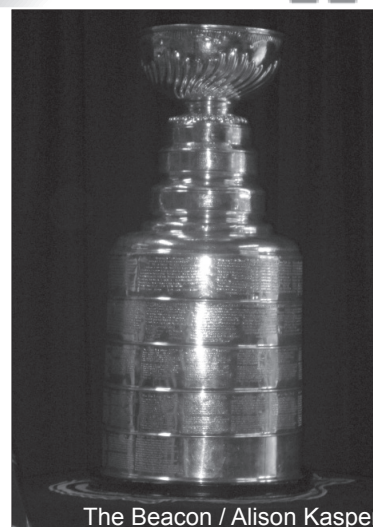
FIELD HOCKEY FIRED UP

The Wilkes field hockey team, ranked 18th in the nation, improved to 6-0 with their 4-0 victory over Marywood University this past Saturday. The Lady Colonels used a pair of goals by the DiSabatino twins, Cassie and Jenna, as well as goals from Jennifer Keegan and Chelsea Minx to send the Pacers back to Marywood. The Lady Colonels return to their home turf today to face Susquehanna at 4p.m.

CHAMPIONS COME TO TOWN

The Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins played an intrasquad scrimmage at the Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza on Thursday, with the Black team defeating the Gold team 3-2. Superstars Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin skated in the game, but defenseman Alex Goligoski stole the show. Goligoski, a former Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguin, scored all three goals for the Black team, earning first star honors. Luca Caputi and Mike Rupp scored for the Gold team.

The Penguins brought the Stanley Cup to the Arena with them on Thursday, and fans had the opportunity to take pictures with the trophy from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Various artifacts from Toronto's Hockey Hall of Fame were also at the Wachovia Arena that day, including three other trophies won by the Penguins. For pictures from the Black & Gold game, visit www.wilkesbeacon.com.



Hockey's most prized possession visited Wilkes-Barre on Thursday, as the Pittsburgh Penguins brought the Stanley Cup to the Wachovia Arena for the Black & Gold Game.



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SCOREBOARD

MEN'S SOCCER

9/13 vs. Lebanon Valley 0-1 L
9/16 vs. Dickinson 0-3 L

WOMEN'S SOCCER

9/15 vs. Lebanon Valley 0-3 L
9/19 vs. Centenary 0-2 L

VOLLEYBALL

9/16 vs FDU-Florham 1-3 L
9/19 vs. McDaniel 1-3 L
9/19 vs. Muhlenberg 2-3 L

FIELD HOCKEY

9/17 vs. Keystone 5-2 W
9/19 vs. Marywood 4-0 W

WOMEN'S TENNIS

9/19 vs. Manhattanville 9-0 W

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

9/19 Misericordia Invitational 8th Place

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

9/19 Misericordia Invitational 7th Place

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS

9/17 Scrimmage @ Wachovia Arena
Black Team (Sidney Crosby) 3
Gold Team (Evgeni Malkin) 2

WBS PENGUINS

9/19 @ Binghamton Senators 4-2 L

SWB YANKEES

9/15 @ Durham 4-1 L
9/16 @ Durham 4-1 L
9/17 vs. Durham 3-2 L (12 Innings)
Durham wins Governor's Cup, 3-0



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For up to the minute reports on your favorite Colonels teams throughout the week, follow *The Beacon Sports* on Twitter at www.twitter.com/BeaconSports

Face Off

Penguins poised for to hoist Stanley Cup for second year in a row



Sports Editor

ANTHONY DORUNDA

It's showdown time.

This week we have a very enticing topic that hits home with all Pennsylvania sports fans: who has the best shot as hoisting their respective sports championship trophy for the second straight year?

As you can see, Mr. Holmes took the easy route and went the way of the Steel Curtain. That's like saying Tiger Woods is going to win another Masters Tournament. I think I could take Ben Roethlisberger's place and the Steelers would still take home the Lombardi Trophy.

The real team poised to repeat? Those NHLers down in Pittsburgh. And it's because of these three words: Crosby and Malkin.

Any discussion about whom is the best player in the NHL always involves these two players.

Sure, you could argue for Alexander Ovechkin or any other numerous great players. But the fact of the matter is that al-

though he may score more goals than anyone on this planet, he just doesn't make any of his teammates better. If you want to be the best of the best, you have to be able to improve your team, and he just doesn't do it for me. And last time I checked, scoring the most goals in the league gets you a lot of awards, but not the most important – the Stanley Cup.

Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin, however, not only make everyone around them better, but also make one another untouchable.

How are teams to stop the Penguins with Crosby and Malkin on the ice at the same time? Two out of the past three years one of these two has taken home the Art Ross Trophy (the award given to the player who leads the NHL in points during the regular season.) The talent these two have can make opponents look like the District Five pee-wee team (the pre-Gordon Bombay Mighty Ducks). It's just not fair.

Not to mention that the Pen's roster is almost identical to the team that hoisted the cup last spring. Crosby and Malkin enjoy a supporting cast with the likes of Jordan Staal, Bill Guerin, Chris Kunitz and Ruslan

Fedetenko; while wily vets Sergei Gonchar and Brooks Orpik and future superstar Kris Letang will anchor the blueline.

Jordan Staal is often an afterthought, but during last season's Stanley Cup run, Staal, the second-overall pick from the 2006 entry draft, elevated his play and became one of the team's most important players. He was constantly matched up against the opposing teams' top forwards and shut them down game in and game out.

With Staal, the Penguins have the three best offensive weapons of any team in the league.

Add to that Marc-Andre Fleury, one of the most talked about young goalies in the league, and this team is salivating to be the first team since those Red Wings of 1998 to hold up Lord Stanley's Cup for the second consecutive year.

In all honesty, we may be witnessing the start of a dynasty.

We should all just sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride. (Oh, and order your season tickets to the Console Energy Center, which opens next year, because great teams like this only come around once every few decades.)

Steelers set for a seventh Super Bowl



Asst. Sports Editor

RYAN HOLMES

Game on Mr. Dorunda!

Before you start talking make sure you can back up your words.

I get that Crosby and Malkin are pretty dominant on the ice, but if this was poker my full house would definitely beat your pair.

Although the Steelers have lost some key players such as Linebacker Larry Foote, Defensive Back Bryant McFadden, and Wide Receiver Nate Washington, they still have the best chance to repeat as champions. To do so they will have to prove that they are still the grueling NFL team that other teams hate to play.

The Pittsburgh Steelers have been a dominant team for the past few years collecting two of the last four NFL championships, but I believe that this season will bring about a whole new wave of dominance. Returning

20 out of 22 starters along with the players that became part of the team in the off season should help bring the Vince Lombardi trophy back to Pennsylvania once again.

The Steelers will have to get past some of the best competition early on in the season to silence the critics such as the people who say they don't have what it takes to repeat last year's performance.

"Big Ben" Roethlisberger will once again be leading the team to victory this season. Since 2005, Roethlisberger has started in every game the Steelers have played in. His leadership is just one of the many reasons the team has been successful since he was drafted in 2004.

Assisting Big Ben in the attack of NFL defenses is Running Back Willie Parker and Wide Receivers Hines Ward (2006 Super Bowl MVP) and Santonio Holmes (2009 Super Bowl MVP). This version of the "fab four" have been frustrating defenses for years and there are no signs pointing to them letting up anytime soon.

Just when you think the frustration has

stopped, the defense, led by 5'10 207 pound all-pro Strong Safety Troy Polamalu, takes the field. The University of Southern California graduate has been a quarterback's worst nightmare for the past few seasons. Currently, Polamalu is out for three to six weeks due to injury, but remember he was named All-pro in 2005 and 2008 as well as being selected to the past five Pro Bowls, so expect him to come back even stronger than he was before.

Lets not forget that last second touchdown from Big Ben to Holmes (no relation) in last year's Super Bowl. The Steelers play until the clock has all zeros. They are finishers and that's what it takes to be a champion; finishing every play as if it were your last. Finding a way to win and winning in close games is what they do.

They already got a ring for the other hand, so what's one more.

Bottom line is that five impact players are better than two. Sorry Mr. Dorunda.

So put away your Penguins jersey and get out your "Terrible Towel."

WHAT'S THE WORD AT WILKES?

We asked our readers the same question that we debated and posted their responses in a video on *The Beacon's* website. Log on to see which Pennsylvania team your classmates think will repeat its championship.

for more information check out...

wilkesbeacon.com

GO!

Postseason Preview: The battle for the Cy Young Award

As season winds down, Cy Young races heat up

BY ANTHONY DORUNDA

Sports Editor

& DAN KAUTZ

Managing Editor

AMERICAN LEAGUE

With the baseball season winding down and teams still making that final playoff push, there are still major awards questions that need to be answered, most notably the American League (AL) Cy Young.

Because of space limitations, I narrowed my short list to two players: the Mariners' Felix Hernandez, and the Royals' Zack Greinke.

My dark horse in the race is Felix Hernandez. "King Felix" has quietly put together a dominant season, albeit a quiet one. Playing for the Mariners, a west coast team that is only on at 10 o'clock on the east coast, he doesn't get much pub. Put him in the Yankees rotation with the season he has put together this year, and we may not be having much of a discussion about who would win the award. Let the numbers speak for themselves:

Hernandez ranks fourth in the league with 16 wins and is second in the American League with a stellar 2.52 ERA, trailing only Greinke.

Hernandez has allowed just one or zero runs in a whopping 16 starts this season, and leads the majors with a .608 OPS (Opponents On-base Plus Slugging Percentage).

Hernandez also leads all American League starters with 25 quality starts and has the lowest opponent's batting average (.228). He is also the only pitcher to rank in the top five in the AL in each of the three pitching "Triple Crown" categories (wins, ERA, and K's).

If King Felix can win his last few games (against the Blue Jays and the A's) this could be the 23-year-old's award for the keeping.

But as much of a fight as King Felix has put up, no one player deserves the award more than Zack Greinke.

For starters, Greinke plays for the Royals, who give him as much run support as my tee-ball team would have given him. (Although my tee-ball team was nasty, if there was a tee-ball world series, I assure you we would have participated.) Quick, name me another player for the Royals... and no, George Brett retired in 1993, he does not still play.

It's a fact, though. This season, Greinke has gone at least six innings and given up

two earned runs or less and finished with either a loss or a no-decision a staggering nine times. He has left the game with a lead on four occasions in which the bullpen blew those opportunities. Simply put, Greinke could realistically be sitting atop the AL with a record of 23-5. Think there would be any argument as to who should win the award if that was the case? No. This is why there should be no argument now.

All of the other contenders for the award get to play the Royals, something Greinke doesn't have the pleasure of doing. If Greinke got to play his own team, imagine the numbers he could put up.

Greinke has been nearly unhittable all year long. He leads all of baseball with a 2.14 ERA, which would be below two had you taken out his month of June. In his 15 starts in which the Royals have won, he has a 1.05 ERA. He also ranks second in the AL in strikeouts with 224, second in complete games with six, leads the majors with three complete game shutouts, and is second to only King Felix in quality starts, with 24.

He's also had four starts where he has allowed zero runs and had eight or more strikeouts, and he struck out 15 batters versus the Cleveland Indians--a feat only he and Tim Lincecum have done over the past two years.

That, my friends, is a Cy Young winner. And why Zack Greinke will be the 2009 AL Cy Young award winner.

And really, it isn't even a contest.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

While the Senior Circuit boasts a tighter race than the American League this season in terms of Cy Young competitors, I find it hard to believe that people are having a difficult time in deciding who's deserving of the hardware. There were many pitchers who had fantastic seasons this year in the NL, several of whom played on wretched teams: Josh Johnson (15-4, 3.01 ERA, 1.12 WHIP), Javier Vazquez (13-9, 3.01, 1.05), Chris Carpenter (16-4, 2.45, 1.00), Adam Wainwright (18-8, 2.59, 1.21), Johan Santana (13-9, 3.13, 1.21 pre-injury), and Dan Haren (14-8, 2.79, 0.95), to name a few. The most deserving pitcher is not amongst that group, however; indeed, Tim Lincecum is in a class by himself.

The defending Cy Young winner, deemed "The Freak" by *Sports Illustrated* for his ability to get incredible results out of his 5' 11", 160 lb. frame, has had a truly remarkable season for the Giants. No disre-

spect is meant to Johnson or Vazquez, who have pitched tremendously well for decidedly mediocre teams, or the tandem from St. Louis, who have combined to give the Cardinals a rather intimidating postseason presence. Haren has been tragically forgotten about in talks concerning the race, most likely because he's had the misfortune of being on a cellar-dweller the entire season. If you're a die-hard baseball fan, look up his numbers- they're somewhat staggering.

And almost as good as Lincecum's.

But it is Lincecum who meets the criteria of what almost everyone looks for in either a Cy Young or MVP candidate: a player who puts up remarkable statistics and is on a team in contention for the postseason. Is it sad that the Diamondbacks' predicament in the standings will most likely have an adverse effect on Haren's chances at winning the award? Of course. Had he actually performed better than Lincecum this season, there would be a real cry of outrage. However, it is hard to build a case against

Lincecum.

Consider: his 2.30 ERA is not just the best in the National League, but is second best in the game behind Zack Greinke (who might just be the best pitcher alive as of this moment). He leads the league in strikeouts by 28 and is third in WHIP- by .09 points behind Haren. And although he and Haren are nearly neck-and-neck in innings pitched (207.1 to 209.1 as of this writing), Lincecum has given up 14 less homeruns. Advocates of Haren can point to his 6.25:1 K:BB ratio and claim true dominance, but Lincecum's 4:1 ratio is nothing to sneeze at either (and his .5 edge in ERA make him the clear candidate in my eyes). Factor in his impact on San Francisco's wild card push this season, and you have the pitcher who will probably walk away with the Cy Young come season's end.

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Wilkes volleyball bedeviled in loss to FDU-Florham

During tremendous start, Lady Colonels' biggest enemy is themselves

BY MICHAEL CIGNOLI
Assistant Sports Editor

Right now, there's only one team that can beat the Lady Colonels volleyball squad. It's a group of 11 girls that the Wilkes team knows well.

The Lady Colonels are off to one of their best starts in school history, winning of their first 11 games and taking home the titles at the King's College and Scranton tournaments. The team's victory in the King's College tournament marked the first time that the host team did not win the event.

By comparison, the team won 12 games in each of the 2007 and 2008 seasons.

The Lady Colonels' only two losses during their sensational start came at the hands of Scranton on September 12 and FDU-Florham on Wednesday night at the Marts Center.

Both of the Lady Colonels' defeats were in games that they could have very easily won. During Wednesday's match, they held a commanding lead in the opening game of the best-of-five contest, but ultimately lost to the Devils 26-24.

"We definitely did beat ourselves that time. We were up by five points. I don't know how it happened," said junior libero Allie Kelleher.

After dropping the opening game, the Lady Colonels had to play from behind. It's something that they've grown accustomed to, but couldn't turn the momentum in their favor against FDU-Florham. Wilkes dropped two of the final three games, ultimately losing the match 3-1.

"A lot of times we start off from behind. I don't know why we do it," Kelleher said. "We usually prevail through it and just continue to work harder...we definitely should have had that win tonight. I don't know what we did that first game, I really don't."

Kelleher explained that the team's loss to Scranton, a 3-2 defeat, had a similar storyline.

"One of the games we lost 26-24. We're right there with all the teams, it just seems to be that we can't put some of these games away," she said. "That's one of things we're going to focus on in practice."

Wednesday's game marked the beginning of conference play for the Lady Colonels.



The Beacon / Tom Reilly

Members of the Wilkes University women's volleyball team huddle during a time out in the fourth game of their match versus FDU-Florham on Wednesday at the Marts Center. The Lady Colonels lost the game 25-17 and the match 3-1, which dropped their conference record to 0-1 on the year. Wilkes visits Manhattanville tonight.

As they inch closer to what they hope will be their second consecutive playoff appearance, they know that wins aren't going to come any easier.

"Conference games are obviously a little bit more intense, a lot more emotion," said first-year head coach Lisa Rizzo. "At practice we try and focus on staying level headed and knowing how important a conference match-up is, but also just playing our game and focusing on the people we have on our side of the court."

The Lady Colonels did not experience a significant turnover in their roster during the offseason, losing only one of last year's starters. But even though the majority of the team is back, they aren't the same players they were during last season.

"Last year they got a taste of the playoffs – what it's like to win and what it's like to make the playoffs. They just brought that this year and they're ready to go from the start," Rizzo said.

"We've been working really, really hard

in practice. We've been buckling down and it's really paying off," Kelleher said. "Everything we do is for the game, and we push through practices to make sure we get better as a team."

The Lady Colonels have plenty of motivation to work hard, as preseason polls picked them to finish fifth in the Freedom Conference. Kelleher explained that the team was insulted by the seeding, especially because they were placed behind King's College.

"We don't like that at all," Kelleher said. "We want to finish top three."

However, the only way the Lady Colonels will be able to achieve that goal is to win their conference games. So far, Wilkes hasn't won any, but they will have a chance to change that when they visit Manhattanville tonight, September 22.

"Our conference games are huge to us. [Wednesday's] loss was not good at all," Kelleher said. "It definitely puts a fire under our butts."

BY THE NUMBERS

8

Consecutive wins the Lady Colonels volleyball team posted to open the 2009 season. Last year, the team won just 12 of their 32 games.

2

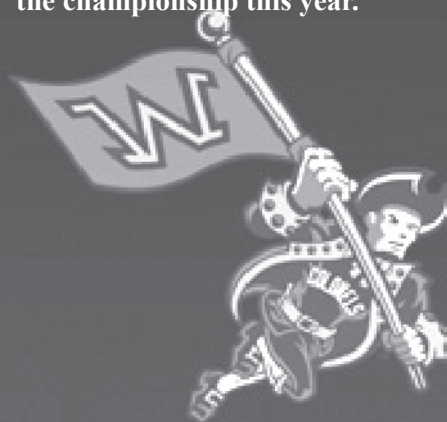
Players named to the all-tournament team for their play during the King's College tournament. Allie Kelleher and Marissa Harrison took home the honors for Wilkes.

1

Starter from last year's volleyball team that did not return this season. Pharmacy major Katherine Harrington finished her NCAA eligibility, but everyone else is back.

0

Times the host team did not win the King's College tournament, prior to the Lady Colonels winning the championship this year.



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